

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated March 25, 2004. Claims 1, 7-23, 29-116, 118-129, 131-166, 168-179, 181-192, 195-204 and 207-254 are presented for examination.^{1/} Claims 43, 66, 101, 132, 165, 190, 213 and 236 have been amended as discussed below; Claims 42, 65, 100, 131, 164, 189, 212 and 235 have been amended as to matters of form; and Claim 253 has been amended to correct a typographical error. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of Claims 1, 7-23, 29-42, 44-65, 67-100, 102, 116, 118-129, 131-166, 168-192, 195-204 and 207-252.^{2/}

Claims 43, 66 and 101 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. These claims generally are directed to a signal conveying instructions for a programmable processing apparatus.

As an initial matter, Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for granting and conducting a telephone interview on June 9, 2004. As explained during the interview and in previously-filed responses, Applicants strongly disagree with the propriety of this rejection. Nevertheless, Claims 43, 66 and 101 have been amended to even more clearly emphasize the tangible nature of the claimed subject matter, in the manner proposed following the interview.^{3/} Specifically, these claims have been amended to recite a

^{1/}The Office Action states that Claims 1-116, 118-129, 131-166, 168-179, 181-192, 195-204 and 207-251 are pending in the application. However, in the Amendment filed June 27, 2003, new Claims 252-254 were added, and Claims 2-6 and 24-28 were cancelled.

^{2/}Claims 2-6 and 24-28 were cancelled in the previous Amendment (see Note 1).

^{3/}See Applicants' facsimile to the Examiner dated June 10, 2004, which is attached to the Interview Summary.

physically-embodied computer program product including instructions in computer-readable form, which the Examiner agreed would overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101⁴. Accordingly, it is believed that the rejection under Section 101, has been obviated, and its withdrawal is therefore respectfully requested.

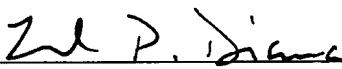
Although not rejected, Claims 132, 165, 190, 213 and 236, which are also directed to a signal conveying instructions for a programmable processing apparatus, have been amended in a manner similar to that discussed above.

Applicants submit that all of the pending claims now are in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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⁴/See Interview Summary dated June 10, 2004.